Emilio Aguinaldo was born on March 22, 1869, in the town of Kawit, Cavite. His parents were honest and well-to-do citizens of that town. From his mother he derived a strain of Chinese blood. At an early age his education was interrupted by the death of his father. Returning to Kawit, the boy took up farming. Hardly was he of age before he became the *Cafitdn Municipal* of his home town. About the same time, young Aguinaldo joined the *Katipunan,* and though relatively an obscure member rose rapidly to prominence because of his successes in the field. At an assembly of high officials and other citizens who took part in the Revolution in 1896, at which Aguinaldo was not present, he was elected President, thereby defeating Andres Bonifacio. At this time, it should be recalled, Aguinaldo was barely twenty-eight years of age.

General Aguinaldo caused the Spaniards so much trouble that they were glad to make peace with him, which they did by signing the Pact of Biak-na-bato. Thereafter Admiral Dewey brought Aguinaldo from Hongkong to Manila and sanctioned his cooperation with the American forces. After the split between the Americans and the Filipinos, resulting in sanguinary battles in which the Filipinos were defeated, and after Funston had captured Aguinaldo, the latter issued a proclamation inviting his countrymen to lay down their arms. He took the oath of allegiance to the American flag to which he has ever since been loyal. His dignity of manner, and his attractive personality under trying

circumstances made a most favorable impression on all who came in contact with him.

It seems to be the fate of all great men to become involved in tragedy, whether of their own volition or not. General Aguinaldo was no exception to the rule. On at least two occasions, he had to take effective and prompt measures to maintain his position. Inevitable rumor and suspicion have induced inferences detrimental to Aguinaldo's good name, entirely